

1. CHERRY HILL FARM—*Falls Church Homefront*
2. LIVING IN FEAR—*Mosby's Falls Church Raid*
3. GALLOWAY METHODIST CHURCH—*Historic African American Cemetery*
4. HARRIET AND GEORGE BRICE—*Seizing Freedom and Facing Challenges*
5. THE FALLS CHURCH—*Vandalism and Renewal*
6. THE VILLAGE OF FALLS CHURCH—*Between the Armies*
7. TAYLOR'S TAVERN—*Professor Lowe's Balloons*

**Locations of surviving Civil War houses (First 5 are on or within 2 blocks of E. Broad Street.)**

- Ives House, Civil War residence of George Ives, 1855, 209 E. Broad Street
- "Home Hill," Civil War residence of John Bartlett, 1854 (and 1861 headquarters of General James Longstreet, Army of Northern Virginia, CSA), 203 Lawton Street
- Crump House, Civil War residence of Lewis Crump, 1854, 300 E. Broad Street
- Ives House, Civil War residence of Reuben Ives, ca. 1864, 302 E. Broad Street
- Birch House, Civil War residence of Joseph Birch, ca. 1849, 312 E. Broad Street, *NRHP\**
- "Mt. Hope," Civil War residence of Amzi Coe (smaller frame portion ca. 1830, rest 1870), 203 Oak Street, *NRHP\**
- "Falcon's Nest," Civil War residence, 1840 (modified), 903 Lanier Place
- "Cloverdale," Civil War residence of Williston Clover, 1851, 205 Park Ave. (moved from original location on W. Broad Street)
- Erwin House, Civil War residence of Walter Erwin, 1852, 400 Great Falls Street
- Rees House, Civil War residence, 1852, 120 Rees Place
- Birch House, Civil War residence of Almond Birch, 1862, 209 Midvale Street

*\* Listed on National Register of Historic Places*

## The Falls Church Civil War 150th Anniversary Committee

- Diane Morse – chair
- Ron Anzalone
- Irene Chambers
- Barbara Cram
- Rory Dippold
- Brad Gernand
- Nikki Graves
- Gloria Guba
- Ed Henderson
- Bette Marchant
- Kara Osmonson
- Dave Snyder
- Ric Terman
- Keith Thurston
- John Tuohy

## The Civil War Trail Markers funded by:

- The Falls Church
- The Falls Church Economic Development Authority
- The Friends of Cherry Hill
- The Galloway Methodist Church
- The Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation
- The Victorian Society at Falls Church
- The Village Preservation and Improvement Society
- The Galloway Methodist Church
- Virginia Tourism Council/Civil War Trails Grant

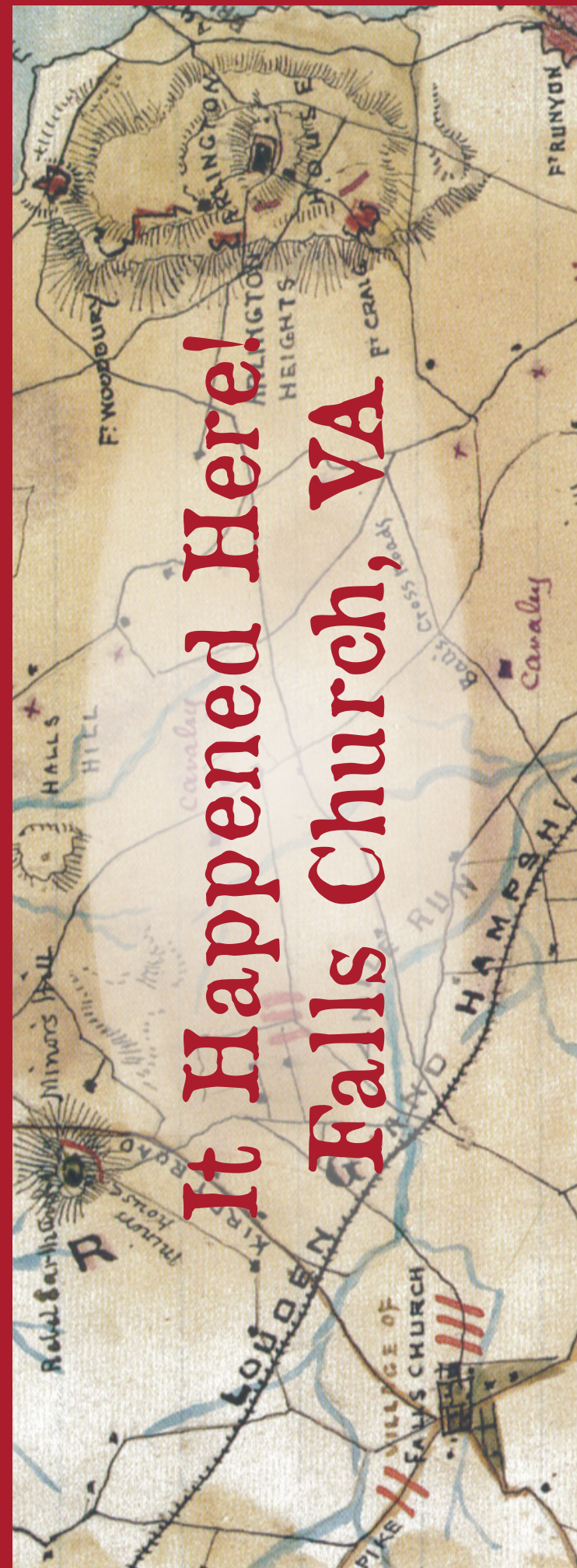


[www.VirginiaCivilWar.org](http://www.VirginiaCivilWar.org)

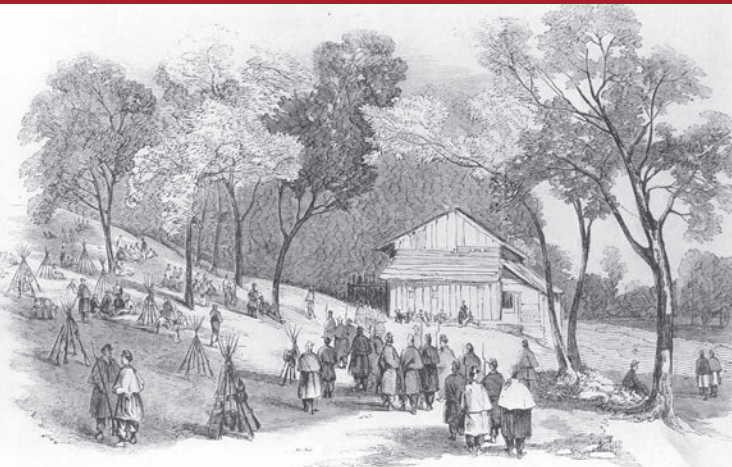


Virginia   
*is for Lovers*

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Arrival of the First and Second Connecticut Regiments at the Village of Falls Church near Vienna, VA, on Wednesday Morning, June 19th—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, June 29, 1861

## Falls Church in the Civil War— It Happened Here

*“Our journey took us through the far-famed settlement of Falls Church. Add two miserable churches to that of Perry [New York], and let that place run fifty years without repair, and you have a picture of the village of Falls Church.”—Union army soldier, December 1861*

### Falls Church Was...

A community of northern emigrants and long-time Virginians, black and white, embroiled in a conflict that divided neighbors, churches, and families.

A small farming village and crossroads less than ten miles from the U.S. capital city that sat between two opposing armies for much of the Civil War and was occupied by each side at different times.

A peaceful place built around a brick church from before the Revolutionary War that soon was engulfed by Army camps and makeshift hospital wards.

A testing ground for one of the first military observation balloons and a place where residents tensed against possible guerilla raids after dark.

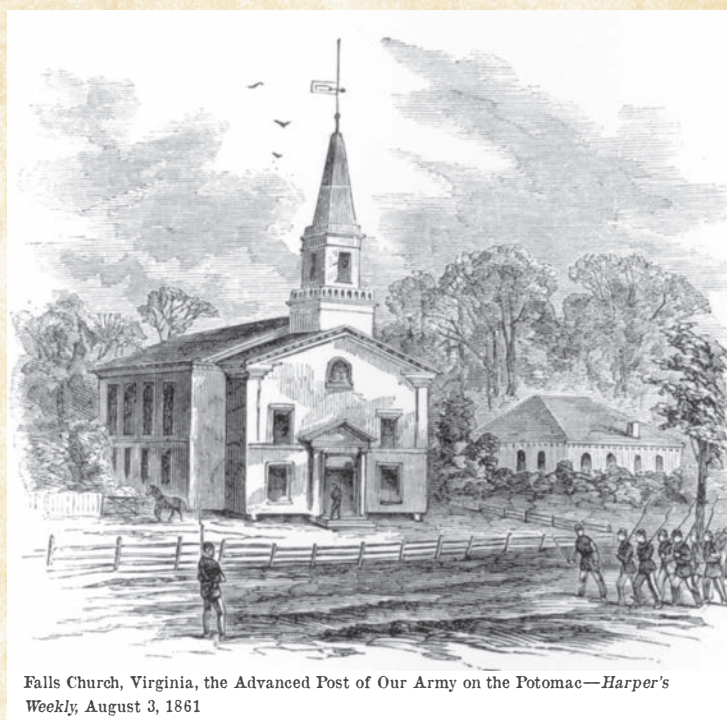
### What You Can See Today...

Six marked sites and seven **markers** in Falls Church that are part of the Virginia Civil War Trail system. Each marker depicts a Civil War-related event that took place on or near the site. You can also see some of the private homes that were here during the Civil War.

## The Civil War and 1860s Falls Church

Virginia had left the Union, and Falls Church was 8 miles from Washington, D.C. Eventually, every man, woman, and child here, free or enslaved, felt the effects of the war. **[Falls Church Between the Armies]**

From 1861 to 1865, this small Northern Virginia farming village found itself embroiled in the nation's struggle. Many residents had originally come from the North. While slavery may not have been as obvious as it was on the cotton and rice plantations of the Deep South, at least 100 enslaved persons, and probably more, toiled for Falls Church citizens as laborers or household help. There were also free African Americans living in Falls Church, some skilled, some laborers.



Falls Church, Virginia, the Advanced Post of Our Army on the Potomac—*Harper's Weekly*, August 3, 1861

When the time came, some people voted against secession, and some voted for Abraham Lincoln. However, Unionists and Lincoln supporters were in the minority. Their state had decided to leave the Union and they would be among the first affected when Union troops took action.

The war that began in May 1861 lasted for nearly four years. While there were no major battles fought in or near the village, Falls Church was just outside the Union string of forts guarding Washington, D.C., with several forts in the vicinity of what is now Seven Corners and Bailey's Crossroads. **[Taylor's Tavern]**

The Confederates occupied Falls Church for a brief period during the summer of 1861. Army units of both North and South passed through Falls Church on their way to battlefields, including Manassas (Bull Run), and the railroad that had opened through Falls Church in 1859–1860 had to suspend operations. The turnpike to Alexandria and the road south to Fairfax Courthouse were used for Army supplies and troops. After the autumn of 1861, Confederate forces left Falls Church, and the Union Army occupied the area for the rest of the war. On quitting Falls Church in October 1861, Confederates left this note:

*Dear YANKEES:*

*Having been resident denizens of Falls Church for some time, we today reluctantly evacuate, not because you intimidate by your presence, but only in obedience to military dictation.*

*We leave you a fire to cook potatoes, also to warm by, as the nights are now uncomfortable on account of their chilling influence. Mr. J. T. Petty, an inhabitant of Washington, but a “Secesh” in the rebel army, joins compliments with me upon this propitious occasion.*

*JOHNSTON, Company B, 17th Reg. Va. Vols.*

An interracial Home Guard of local citizens helped keep watch and protect the village. Army camps and hospitals were set up throughout Falls Church and vicinity, and many buildings, including The Falls Church itself, were used for sick and wounded soldiers, as stables, or other uses. **[The Falls Church]**

For those who stayed here, it was hard to get a lot of things, and prices were high. Mail and news were sporadic. Schools and churches closed. Many of those in Falls Church left to join friends and relatives in either the North or the South, or sent their children away. Some families or adults stayed because they had no place else to go or because they wanted to protect their property. **[Cherry Hill Farm]**

Trees were cut down so forts could have a clear field of fire. Troops damaged or took crops, livestock, and fences (for firewood). Even as late as 1865 farmers were reporting losses of crops due to soldier encampments. **[Harriet and George Brice]**

Raids or skirmishes between Union troops and Confederate partisans in and around Falls Church were particularly devastating, as in the case of the murder



The Village of Falls Church, VA - Arrival of the Second U. S. Cavalry, Company B, Lieutenant Tompkins, on Wednesday Morning, June 19th—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated News*, June 29, 1861

of John Read (local abolitionist who taught the enslaved to read and write), by Mosby's partisan Rangers. **[Living in Fear]**

By the end of the war, the village and surrounding countryside had been transformed. Churches and homes had been destroyed and the social fabric of the community had changed. Yet farmers in the area persisted, and soon after the war the nation's expanding capital increased demand for produce and commerce. For those who had suffered under slavery, challenges remained, but many took advantage of new opportunities and became successful farmers and landowners in Falls Church. **[Galloway Methodist Church]**

By 1875, Falls Church was sufficiently rebuilt and repopulated that it could be incorporated and granted a town charter.



Balloon Ascension. Prof. Thaddeus Lowe Observing the Battle of Seven Pines or Fair Oaks from his Balloon “Intrepid,” June 1, 1862—Library of Congress

Learn more about Thaddeus Lowe's balloons at Civil War Trail Marker 7: Taylor's Tavern